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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/826,774	04/16/2004	Wayne Rollins Hansen	14374.111	1290

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VARIAN MEDICAL SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
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EXAMINER

PRASAD, CHANDRIKA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2839

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/31/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/826,774

Applicant(s)

HANSEN ET AL.

Examiner

Chandrika Prasad

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 December 2006.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 and 9-37 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) 14-17 and 28-37 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-7, 9-13, 18-27 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 3-7 and 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Purpura et al. (4769906).

Purpura (Figures 1-8) shows an electrical cable assembly configured to removably mate with a receptacle 16, the cable assembly comprising a cable 12 with a plurality of conductors 18 attached to a fitting 22, 26, and a resilient non-electrically conductive terminal (such as a rubber) 30 with a first end attached to the fitting and a second end indirectly attached to a plurality of electrical contacts 54 in electrical communication with conductors of the cable wherein a joint defined by the terminal and the fitting (the point where the front end of 22 meets with terminal 30) is substantially disposed within the receptacle 16. A plurality of terminals 54 are attached to the cable conductors, thus attached to the cable. The terminal 30 has an annular groove in the form of a circle at the location where its rear end is joined to the fitting. The diametric expansion of the terminal element is restricted or controlled by the fitting.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person

having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 13-18 and 21-23 and are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Purpura et al. (4769906).

Purpura discloses all the features of these claims except the material of the fitting being a metal and configured in the form of an elbow. Such metal fittings are well known and widely used in the art of electrical connectors. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the instant invention to make the terminal of a metal and configured in the shape of an elbow because such fittings are well known, commercially available, widely used and would be within the general skill of a worker in the art to use such a fitting.

5. Claims 2, 9 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Purpura et al. (4769906) in view of Dechelette (4737122).

Purpura shows all the features of these claims except the terminal element being conical. Such a feature is well known in the art of electrical connectors. Dechelette shows such a feature. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the instant invention to provide such a feature as shown by Dechelette because such a modification would have involved a mere change in the shape of a component which is recognized as being within the level of ordinary skill in the art.

6. Claims 24-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Purpura et al. (4769906) in view of Tang (20030087553).

Purpura discloses all the features of these claims except a conductive element between the electrical contacts and the conductors of the cable. Such a feature is well known in the art of electrical connectors. Tang shows such a feature (a ferrule 3 with conductive elements 33, 35

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between a cable conductor and electrical contacts. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the instant invention to provide such a feature as shown by Tang to connect electrical conductors of a cable to electrical contacts.

Response to Arguments

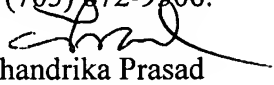
7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Contact Information

8. Any correspondence to this action may be mailed to:

**Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chandrika Prasad whose telephone number is (571) 272-2099. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor can be reached at (571) 272-2800 ext 39. The fax number is (703) 872-9306.


Chandrika Prasad
Primary examiner
January 26, 2007